

WI-15  
Gardiner Spring House  
and Doctor's Office  
Salisbury (site)  
Private

c. 1906

The construction of Gardiner and Ada Spring's house and his doctor's office took place during the first decade of the 20th century on land that was owned and subdivided by Salisbury contractor and builder Thomas H. Mitchell. On May 1, 1906, Thomas H. and Sallie M. Mitchell sold "Lot 10" of the land platted between Baltimore and Philadelphia streets to Ada Naylor Spring for \$250. On this lot, which bordered Benton Street, the Springs financed the construction of a prominent Queen Anne style residence that repeated in form and detail many of the dwellings erected in Newtown during the previous two decades. Built in a two-and-a-half story form with an asymmetrical plan and a variety of Victorian decoration, the house was joined on the lot by a single-story two-bay by two-bay doctor's office that was distinguished by a mansard roof. Dr. Spring, son-in-law of Dr. Robert Naylor, conducted his practice in this office throughout the first half of the 20th century. The buildings were torn down around 1970 when the Statesman Motel was erected along US Route 13.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Gardiner Spring House and Doctor's Office

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-15

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling  
Doctor's Office

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-15

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Gardiner Spring House and Doctor's Office

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Benton Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Salisbury ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Statesman Motel, Inc.

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 904

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 801

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1970 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-15

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☒ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Gardiner Spring house and doctor's office formerly stood on the east side of Benton Street on the north side of Baltimore Street in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The large two-and-a-half story frame dwelling faced west with a hip roof oriented on a north/south axis. Located on the north side of the house was a single-story mansard roofed frame doctor's office erected around the same time as the house. The house and doctor's office are documented by an early twentieth century photograph taken shortly after construction. The two buildings were demolished around 1970 in order to erect a motel and parking lot that faces US 13.

Dating around the turn of the twentieth century, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling was supported on a raised brick foundation and the exterior was clad with a combination of weatherboards and fishscale shingles. The hip roofed main block was extended on several sides by gable roofed pavilions.

The west (main) elevation of the house followed an asymmetrical plan with a projecting two-story pavilion on the south side of a recessed entrance sheltered by a turned post porch. Extending forward from the pavilion was a two-story, polygonal bay pierced by single-pane sash windows and topped by a cross gabled shed roof. Hanging from the eaves of the shed roof were decorative sawn brackets. Piercing the gable end were paired sash windows. The edges of the roof were finished with extended eaves, open soffits, and exposed rafter ends. Sheltering the front door was a turned post, hip roofed porch featuring a low cross gable entrance bay. The cross gable was finished with an enclosed pediment, and paired turned posts featured sawn corner brackets. A turned baluster handrail descended from the porch on each side of the front steps.

The second floor of the main block was lighted by paired single pane sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. Fixed above the north bay was another gable roofed form pierced by paired single-pane sash windows. Centered between the north gable and the projecting pavilion was a single gable roofed dormer. The steeply pitched roof was pierced by single flue brick stove chimneys.

Estimated to date to the same period as the house, the doctor's office stood on the lot immediately north of the house. It was a single story, two-bay by two-bay frame structure supported on a brick foundation and covered by a mansard roof. The west (main) elevation was distinguished by a shed roofed, turned post porch embellished with delicate corner brackets. Single and paired single-pane sash windows pierced the side walls, and the mansard roof was marked by shed roofed dormers. Rising through the center of the building was a single flue brick stove chimney.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-15

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The construction of Gardiner and Ada Spring's house and his doctor's office took place during the first decade of the 20th century on land that was owned and subdivided by Salisbury contractor and builder Thomas H. Mitchell.<sup>1</sup> On May 1, 1906, Thomas H. and Sallie M. Mitchell sold "Lot 10" of the land platted between Baltimore and Philadelphia streets to Ada Naylor Spring for \$250.<sup>2</sup> On this lot, which bordered Benton Street, the Springs financed the construction of a prominent Queen Anne style residence that repeated in form and detail many of the dwellings erected in Newtown during the previous two decades. Built in a two-and-a-half story form with an asymmetrical plan and a variety of Victorian decoration, the house was joined on the lot by a single-story two-bay by two-bay doctor's office that was distinguished by a mansard roof. Dr. Spring, son-in-law of Dr. Robert Naylor, conducted his practice in this office throughout the first half of the 20th century. The buildings were torn down around 1970 when the Statesman Motel was erected along US Route 13.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 29/159, plat filed 25 March 1901.

<sup>2</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 49/248, 1 May 1906.

<sup>3</sup> Personal conversation with Dr. Spring's granddaughter, Betty Dryden Augustine, February 1998.



WI-15  
Gardiner Spring House and Doctor's Office (site)  
Benton Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

904/801                      William J. Moton  
                                    Lillian M. Moton

to

9/1/1978                      Statesman Motel, Inc.  
  
Plat JWTS 594/9

JWTS 707/33                      Statesman Motel, Inc.

to

3/20/1970                      William J. Moton  
                                    Lillian M. Moton

705/454                      John W. T. Webb, Executor under the Will of  
Isabel S. Dryden, 3/11/1970, 705/454

to

3/11/1970                      Statesman Motel, Inc.

Being Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, & 19 and the bed of Vaughn Street  
Plat of Lots of Thomas H. Mitchell, made by Peter S. Shockley  
11/22/1900, JTT 29/159, being the same land conveyed unto  
Isabel S. Dryden and Francis H. Dryden by Gardiner Spring  
3/25/1952, JWTS 342/528

WI-15  
Gardiner Spring House and Doctor's Office  
Benton Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

342/528                      Gardiner Spring, widower

to

3/25/1952                      Isabel Spring Dryden  
Francis H. Dryden

Lots No. 12, 11, 19, 10, and 13 and the bed of Hill Street  
between Lots 19 and 13, Plat JTT 29/159, filed 3/25/1901

EAT 49/248                      Thomas H. Mitchell, Sr.  
Sallie M. Mitchell

to

5/1/1906                      Ada N. Spring  
  
\$250    Lot No. 10

JTT 27/20                      James Cannon

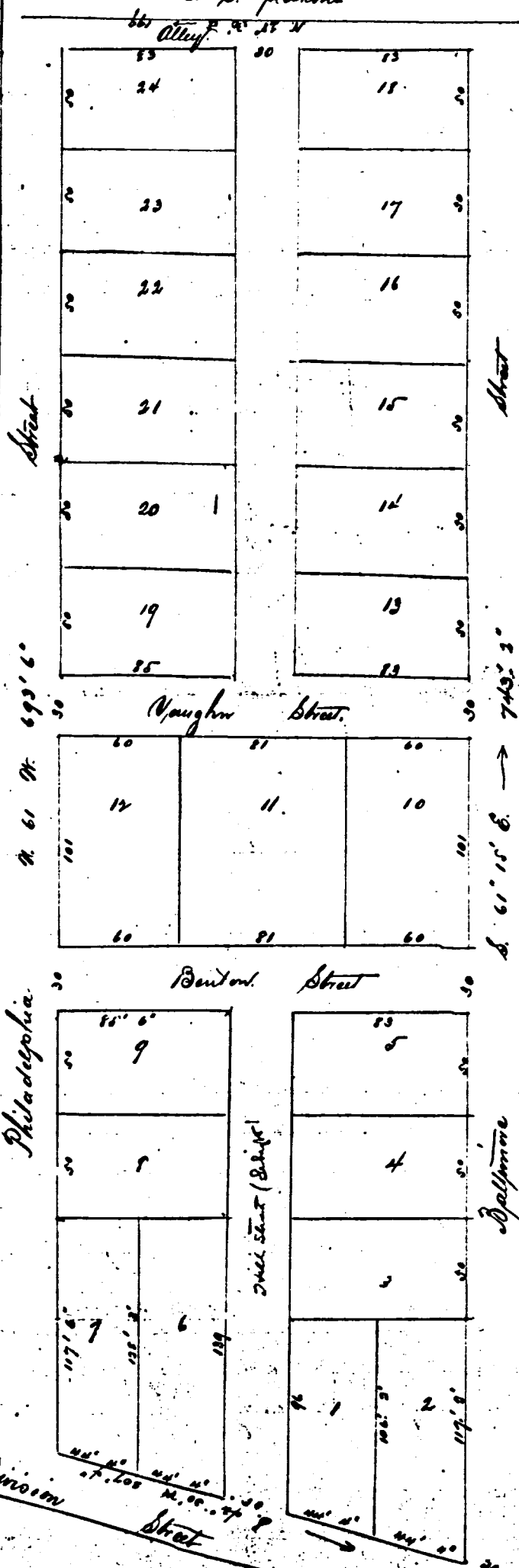
to

7/15/1899                      Thomas H. Mitchell



Plat.  
of  
Thomas H. Mitchell

E. S. Perkins



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.  
VIENNA 15 MI.

447000m E.

WI-15

Gardiner Spring House and Doctor's  
Office (site)

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

